

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles with a perovskite crystal structure, having an average particle diameter of 0.05 to 0.5 μm , a particle size distribution σ_g of not less than 0.70, ~~and~~ a ratio of Ba to Ti of 0.99:1 to 1.01:1 and a sphericity (maximum diameter/minimum diameter) of 1.0 to 1.4.

2. (Currently Amended) Spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles according to claim 1, which have a ~~sphericity (maximum diameter/minimum diameter) of from 1.0 to less than 2.0~~ and a BET specific surface area value of 2 to 20 m^2/g .

3.-4. Canceled.

5. (Currently Amended) A process for producing the spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles with a perovskite crystal structure, having an average particle diameter of 0.05 to 0.5 μm , a particle size distribution σ_g of not less than 0.70, and a ratio of Ba to Ti of 0.99:1 to 1.01:1, as defined in claim 1,

which process comprises:

adding an aqueous barium salt solution to a titanium hydroxide colloid in the presence of a carboxylic acid in an amount of 1 to 60 mol% based on barium contained in the aqueous barium salt solution, thereby producing barium titanate starting particles;

hydrothermally treating a resultant reaction solution containing the barium titanate starting particles at a temperature of 100 to 350°C, thereby obtaining spherical cubic barium titanate particles; and

calcining the spherical barium titanate particles at a temperature of 500 to 1,200°C to transform the spherical cubic barium titanate particles into the spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles.

6.-8. Canceled.

9. (Currently Amended) Spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles with a perovskite crystal structure, having an average particle diameter of 0.05 to 0.5 μm , a particle size distribution σ_g of not less than 0.70, a ratio of Ba to Ti of 0.99:1 to 1.01:1, a sphericity (maximum diameter/minimum diameter) of from 1.0 to 1.4 ~~less than 2.0~~ and a BET specific surface area value of 2 to 20 m^2/g .

10. Canceled.

11. (Original) Spherical tetragonal barium titanate particles with a perovskite crystal structure, having an average particle diameter of 0.05 to 0.4 μm , a particle size distribution σ_g of 0.75 to 0.9, a ratio of Ba to Ti of 0.99:1 to 1.01:1, a sphericity (maximum diameter/minimum diameter) of 1.0 to 1.4 and a BET specific surface area value of 2 to 15 m^2/g .

12. Canceled.